NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1879.

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THE HOUSE APPARENTLY INSANE. THE WARNER BILL ON ITS FINAL PASSAGE IN THE HOUSE-THE EXTRAORDINARY CHARACTER OF

THIS STRANGE MEASURE EXPLAINED. The House of Representatives took up the Warner Silver bill yesterday. The previous question was called on the first two sections fixing the weight of the gold and silver coins and the sections were passed. The third section was voted on, but not disposed of. The action of the House is placed in a startling light by a letter from the regular correspondent of THE TRIBUNE at Washdescribing the character of the bill. The measure proposes, in effect, to make the Government buy all the silver, American or foreign, offered to it by private owners, issuing certificates therefor good for duties and taxes. The profit, which will be about eighteen cents on the dollar, will go to the owners. The Government is to be forbidden to buy on its own account. Mr. Morton, of New-York, made a strong speech against the bill yesterday.

THE ACTION OF THE HOUSE. THE VOTING ON THE BILL-TWO SECTIONS DIS-POSED OF-MS. MORTON'S ABLE SPEECH.

TRY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, May 15 .- The discussion of the Warner Silver bill in the House of Representatives, now drawing to a close, has attracted less attention than the importance of the measure entitles it to. A few remarkably good speeches, like those of Mr. Chittenden, Mr. Reed, of Maine, and Mr. Fort, of Illinois, and the little five-minutes protest by Mr. L. P. Morton to-day, have been istened to attentively. They have been read with interest and widely commented upon; but many others who have addressed the House on the bill, and especially those who have supported it, have talked about almost every other branch of the financial question more than that touched by the measure, and have only rehashed the old arguments, not even freshening them up now and then with an original idea. Possibly the indifference which the House of Representatives and the country have shown in regard to this important subject is due to the well founded-belief that the bill in question can never become a law, and that, therefore, it is not worth while to become excited about it. Its passage by the House even, without very material amendment, is doubtful after the votes of to-day, its adoption by the Senate more so, and its veto by the President certain.

The House got down fairly to the bill for the first time to-day. The first vote was on a motion offered by Mr. Killinger, of Pennsylvania, to lay the bill upon the table. This was lost by 109 in the affirmative to 126 in the negative. Of those who voted against this motion at least twenty are opposed to the bill as it stands, but refused to assist in its slaughter in order that they might have an opportunity to offer amendments that would make

The previous question was then ordered, and a vote taken on the first section, which enumerates the gold coins of the United States and fixes their weight. It was adopted by 11 majority. The only peculiar feature of this section will be noticed

The second section of the bill enumerates the silver coins of the United States and fixes their weight. It includes the standard dollar, and omits the trade dollar. Considerable discussion arose on an amendment to this section offered by Mr. Kimmel, of Maryland, providing that 460 grains of standard silver shall be put into the dollar. The most notable speech was that of Mr. L. P. Morton, who made an earnest protest against the whole scheme embraced in this bill. Mr. Morton spoke only five minutes, but what he said was crowded full of sound practical sense. His experience with financial problems, and the force and directness with which he expresses his ideas, will make him a most valuable recruit to the small company of men in the House who are able defeated, and also one offered by Mr. Belford to the third section, confining the deposits of silver bullion in the Mint for coinage into dollars to that produced by American mines.

An amendment moved by Mr. Calkins. authoriz ing the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase silver bullion at the market price and coin it into silver. dollars on Government account, was lost by one majority, and pending an attempt to get another vote upon it the House adjourned.

## OBJECTS OF THE BILL.

UNLIMITED REMONETIZATION OF SILVER-THE GOV-ERNMENT TO BE SWINDLED OF ENORMOUS SUMS OF MONEY-ALL THE SILVER IN THE WORLD TO BE EMPTIED INTO AMERICA.

THOM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. Washington, May 15 .- The most important features of this Warner bill and the only ones which have provoked debate are as follows:

1. It makes the silver dollar weighing 41212 grains a "unit," as well as the gold dollar weighing

2. It authorizes the free coinage of silver bullion into standard dollars for the benefit of the depositor.

3. It provides for the redemption of subsidiary tilver coms in legal-tender money.

4. It requires the Secretary of the Treasury to receive silver coin and bullion on deposit and to issue certificates therefor on the same terms on

which he is now required to receive gold coin and 5. It stops the coinage of standard silver dollars

on Government account.

6. It directs the President to reopen diplomatic negotiations for the establishment of a common international mint ratio between the values of gold

7. It makes no further provision for the coinage

of the trade dollar. What the author of the bill means by proposing to enact that the gold and silver dollar shall each be a "unit" he alone probably knows. The law as it now stands in the statute book declares that the gold dollar " shall be the unit of value," and is intelligible, but to declare by statute that one of the coms of the United States shall be a gold or silver dollar, " or unit," is about as sensible as to enact that there shall be in a certain division of the Post Office Department twelve clerks, "or a dozen," Congress cannot make a silver or a gold dollar either more or less than a "unit," but it may make either or both a "unit of value," sithough to attempt to make two things of unequal value, like 25810 grains of gold and 41212 grains of silver, each equivalent to a third or a dollar, violates one of the fundamental axioms of geometry. The object of the author of the bill unquestionably was to remonetize silver, and this be has effectually done in other sections of his bill; but the declaring a dollar of either or both metals to be a "unit" by no means does it. These features of the bill were adopted by the House to-day.

A BLACK INIQUITY PROPOSED. The second and fourth features of the bill must be treated together. They open the mints of the United States to the free coinage of silver bullion into dollars, each of which is worth 1512 cents more than the metal it contains, and lest the speculator in silver shall not be able to get his returns promptly on account of the incapacity of the mints to manufacture the coins, it directs the Secretary of the Treasury to give them certificates for the silver bullion which shall be receivable at their face value for all dues to the Government. In of the party policy, but this he failed to do. Other words the bill directs the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to any owner of silver bullion, Stizen or foreigner, one dollar for every 41212 of Senator Thurman should undertake a set speech

VOTING ON THE SILVER BILL. grains of the metal which he can buy in the London

Who would be benefited by such a law as this? First, a few hundred owners and producers of silver bullion in this country, a class composed almost exclusively of capitalists, bankers and speculators. The advocates of this bill are loud in their professions of devotion to the interests of the people as against capital. How honest they are the people may judge by their support of this measure, which requires the Secretary of the Treasury to buy silver with the people's money and pay 18 per cent more than the market value for it. It may be said that the Government pays nothing for the bullion, but simply issues a piece of paper for it which has cost nothing, and that when the certificate is redeemed it will be paid in the same bullion for which it was issued. Very true, but nobody will present the certificate for redemption so long as they are worth 18 per cent more than the metal he has changed for them, and the only way that the certificates will return to the Government will be in the form of taxes and duties. When they come in for those purposes the silver which they represent will become the property of the Government, and as this bill denies to the Government the privilege which it accords to every man on the face of the globe, of having the silver which it owns converted into dollars, the only way in which that part of its receipts represented by silver certificates can be made available will be by the sale of the bullion in the market, and at the price which it will command there. By this process the Government actually becomes the purchaser of silver at 18 per cent above its market value, which in the end it must sell again for no more than its market value.

Nor does the loss of the Government stop with this sale. The purchaser of the bullion has the right under the provisions of the bill to make immediate deposit of the silver bullion he has fust bought in the Treasury, and receive certificates for it, which in return will come back to the Treasury in the form of taxes and duties on imports. Thus the Government might be called upon to shoulder a loss of 18 per cent on the same lot of bullion many times in a single year, and at the end of the time have no more bullion on band than after the first deposit was made. The loss would appear in the reduction of the proceeds of its receipts.

Secondly, the people of Great Britain, France, Germany, and every other European nation which is now wrestling with the silver question and trying to devise means to escape the enormous losses incident to the depreciation of silver, would be greatly relieved by the passage of this bill. Very few people in this country appreciate the loss which English trade is now yearly sustaining on account of the fall in the price of silver, or the effect that loss is having upon public opinion coucerning standards of value in that country. Referring to this subject recently. The London Economist said: "Uncertainty must attend on many if not on most trading ventures, but when to that uncertainty an additional risk of loss, ranging from 5 per cent to 10 per cent on each cargo, is added, it is no wonder if the most cautious find themselves deceived in their calculations, and merchant after merchant admits that in lieu of profit he has for some considerable time reaped nothing but loss from trade with silver-using

But the remedy which the Editor of The Economist has suggested proves, more than any bare statement ean, into what straits Great Britain has been brought by the condition of the silver market for the last four years. Estimating that Germany still has about £15,000,000 or about \$75,000,000 worth of silver still to sell, and believing that the existence of this amount, which may be thrown on the market at any time, is one of the principal causes of the present depression in the price of silver, he suggests that the Bank of England be authorized by the Government to purchase one-third or onehalf of Germany's surplus stock and lock it up, on condition that Germany agrees to sell no more for the next five years. This is a desperate remedy for a desperate case.

But the author of the Warner bill offers to these countries a way out of all their difficulties. He not only proposes to open the doors of the United States Treasury to the silver of all the world, but to pay a to take the lead in the support of sound financial measures. Of course Mr. Kimmel's amendment was metal to pour it into this great reservoir. In 1876 metal to pour it into this great reservoir. In 1876 it was fashionable for the inflationists in and out of Congress to accuse those who had been instrumental in bringing about the demonetization of silver and those who opposed its remonetization after it had been depreciated of having being bought up with 'British gold.' Of course this was absurd, because the closing of the mints of the United States to the coinage of silver since the decline in its price has been one of the causes of the present distress in Great Britain, and has been deplored by English business men and writers on finance ever since the subject began to be generally discussed. But what shall be said now of the men who not only propose to help England out of her trouble by taking out of the markets of the world the surplus silver that is causing so much disaster to the business of that country, but to pay the owners of it 18 per cent more than they could get for it in Lombard-st.7 Of course they have not been bought up with British gold.

The provisions for the redemption of subsidiary silver coins, and for the reopening of diplomatic negotiations for the establishment of a common mint

The provisions for the redemption of subsidiary gotations for the establishment of a common mint ratio between the values of gold and silver, are about the only redeeming features of the bill. It is remarkable that the author of such a monstrosity should ever have allowed them to become a part of his measure. his measure.

THE EFFECT OF THE BILL.

The plain effect of the bill, should it become a law, would be to pile up in the Treasury an immenschoard of silver. The \$75,000,000 worth now the Sub-Treasury vaults in New-York in less than a month. The mines of the United States, producing nearly as much more every year, would empty their entire product into the hands of the Government. Every ounce of silver due to any Enropean country in its foreign trade would irresistibly flow into the same reser-

Ou the other hand we should lose an equal amount of gold. The German Government would sell its silver certificates in New-York for gold, and take the latter away, and we should rapidly become a monometallic silver nation, and the disasters that have come upon India, threatening to produce public and

private bankruptcy, would be experienced here. Having taken the whole burden of redundant silver upon our own shoulders, European nations would politely decline to assist us in carrying it even though we should be crushed beneath the load.

The whole theory of this bill is wrong, and its object a dangerous one. The supporters of it are inflationists. They believe, or pretend to believe, that the people who have little or no capital are to be benefited at the expense of capitalists if the volume of the currency can be largely augmented. They would prefer that the inflation should be accomplished by the simple printing of greenbacks, but failing to secure that they are willing to involve their country in the greatest sacrifices, destroy our present system of currency, derange foreign and domestic trade, and cripple industry and enterprise, in order that a few debtors may discharge their obligations in (to them) cheaper currency, and that they may gain the applause of their constituents whom they have led into the grossest error on this subject.

Z. L. W. would politely decline to assist us in carrying it

## GENERAL WASHINGTON NEWS.

A SPEECH BY MR. THURMAN. IN ATTACK ON THE FEDERAL ELECTION LAWS AND PARTICULARLY ON MR. DAVENPORT-AN UN-FORTUNATE INTERRUPTION BY RANDOLPH. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNG.

Washington, May 15 .- Senator Thurman's speech to-day was only remarkable for its lack of originality. It is not worth a detailed synopsis. As the Senator embodies the essence of the Democratic caucus in his own person, it was expected that he would endeavor to sound the "key-note"

It is a matter of some surprise that a statesman of the universally recognized astuteness and ability

when he had nothing new or interesting to say to his audience. Mr. Thurman struggled at great length to prove that the deputy-marshals and supervisors laws are unconstitutional. There is room for a wide difference of

opinion as to the merits of this portion of his remarks but as an unconstitutional law becomes inoperative whenever the proper department of the Government has passed upon it, there cannot be found in the assumption of unconstitutionality any reason why Congress should repeal such measures, and especially why the attempt should be made in an offensive and coercive manner. Mr. Thurman's assault upon "Johnny Davenport"

was neither so funny nor so vigorous as that of several previous speakers, although it was carried to great length, and was made the crowning feature of his speech. It consisted chiefly in reading from the printed testimony taken by investigating committees and in comments which were conspicuously unfair. Mr. Thurman asserted that very large sums of money drawn from the Government by Davenport had never been accounted for and had been retained by him. He essayed to bring some proof of this, and read from the testimony to show that in 1871 Davenport had been borrowing money to pay his personal expenses, while in 1876 he was living in a nice house in a good neighborhood and keeping a carriage. He was about to show something still more heirous on Davenport's part, but couldn't find the place. He gave a detailed statement of the sums expended for deputy-marshals in several of the Northern cities and States as compared with the same expenses in the South, and assumed to find the usual evidence of Republican corruption in the comparison.

to find the usual evidence of Republican corruption in the comparison.

When he mentioned Jersey City, Senator Randolph asked leave to emphasize the statement.

"With the greatest pleasure in the world," said Mr. Tharman as he took his seat.

Mr. Randolph thereupon told with indignation how by means of the expenditure of money for deputy-marshals a district in his State which had for years given good Democratic majorities was turned into a Republican district.

Senator Hoar asked if there were not two Democratic candidates.

Mr. Thurman then said the collequy had better come to an end. He paid his respects to the President, not in the way of argument, but in sheer denunciation, characterizing the logic of the veto messages as contemptible. Mr. Thurman has led his party into a said dilemma, and evidently does not enjoy the distinction which is accorded him as a consequence, he the floor for townyray, and as he

Mr. Eaton has the floor for to-morrow, and as he is the clown of the Democratic circus some fun is expected. Probably he will "jump on Blaine," if the Senator from Maine should arrive in season.

GLOVER AGAIN, TO BE SURE. A REAPPEARANCE-HE WANTS HIS RUBBISH OF A REPORT, WHICH HIS OWN CONGRESS DID NOT

PRINT, TO BE PRINTED NOW. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, May 15.-In the XLVth Congress there was a Representative named Glover, from Missouri, who managed to achieve considerable fame-by his explorations and investigations regarding the expenditures of the Treasury Department.

After Mr. Glover ceased to be a Representative he published in The Record a speech in which he informed the country that he and his experts had succeeded in worrying to death Dr. Linderman, the Director of the Mint. Mr. Glover, in the hurry and confusion attending the close of the last session of Congress, succeeded in getting

House to pass a resolution orderthe printing of the mess of ex parte, ing false, irrelevant and worthless rubbish which he with the help of a corps of so-called "experts' more incompetent than himself, if possible, had gathered. A motion to reconsider the vote by which this resolution was passed was, however,

which this resolution was passed was, however, immediately entered, and this motion was pending when the XLVth Congress expired.

Now plain Mr. Glover, citizen of Missouri, comes before the Printing Committee of the House with his belated rubbish accumulated in a previous Congress, and with which the Printing Committee of the present House has no more to do than it has with the manuscript of any other private citizen or any other subject, and demands that it be printed. The Printing Committee is seriously considering the propriety of Citizen Glover's demand, and will, in all probability, by a majority vote, comply with it. The matter is to be decided to-morrow.

#### A DENIAL BY MR. STEPHENS. NO INTENTION TO REBEL AGAINST THE CAUCUS, BUT AN INDIFFERENCE TO THE POLITICAL LEGIS-

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.1 WASHINGTON, May 15 .- Representative A. H. Stephens says that there is no truth in the published statement that he has informed the Caucus Committee that he will rebel unless he is assured that the Appropriation bills will be passed. Mr. Stephens says he is in entire accord with his party. He thinks the majority, especially the members from the South, hold the political measures to be matters of very little consequence in comparison with a number of commercial and industrial matters which demand Congressional action; and white he speaks for no one except himself, he favors a postponement of all political questions and action upon measures for the rehef of the laboring popula-

## WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 15, 1879. The subscriptions to the four per cent refunding cer-tificates since resterday's report have amounted to \$615,290.

The President sent to the Senate to-day only one omination, viz.: Nathan S. Porter, of Nebraska, to be United States Indian Agent for the Fort Peck Agency,

Baron Ernst Von Mayr, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Austria-Hungary, was, on Tuesday last, presented to the President. The usual ceremonies were observed on the occasion.

Next Tuesday evening the President and Mrs. Hayes will give a reception at the Executive Mansion to a large excursion party visiting this city, under the auspices of the Providence Methodist Episcopal Church, of Scranton, Penn., in celebration of its twenty-fifth anni-

The sub-committee of which General Dibreil was The suc-committee of which General Dibrell was chairman who have had charge of the bill "Repealing the tax on tobacco in the hands of producers," made a favorable report thereon, which was adopted by the full committee, and a recommendation in favor of its passage will be made to the House.

Mr. Orth, of Indiana, in the course of his able speech

in the House to-day on the bill to limit the jurisdiction of the United States Courts in criminal cases where the United States is concerned, showed the growing ten-dency of the Democrats to encroch upon the rights and powers of the United States, of which this bill was one

ton to procure the consent of the Government to their return from the Indian Territory to their northern retain from the human homes, had an interview with the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at 3 o'clock to-day. Little Chief, the leader of the band, after the customary shaking of hands, made a speech. There will be another talk at 10 a.m. to-morrow.

The House Committee on Agriculture met to-day. The sub-committee appointed to inquire into the causes of picuro-pneumonia among cattle, and the best means of preventing the same, reported to the full committee Hatch, of Missouri. The bill prohibits the transporta-tion of cattle affected with contagious or infectious tion of cattle affected with contagious or infectious diseases, especially the disease known as pleuro-preumonia, and for the purpose of preventing violations of the act, requires the Commissioner of Agriculture to select suitable localities, on all lines of railroad, river, or inter State communication, that he may have information that rhe disease exists, and to appoint competent, practical experts, who shall inspect all live cattle received for shipment or passing through their locality. It was decided to report the measure to the House with a favorable recommendation.

## A COLORADO RAILROAD SUIT.

DENVER, May 15 .- In the suit between the Denver and Rio Grande and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railroad Companies, growing out of the conflicting claims to the right of way through Arkansas Cañon, to-day, the United States Circuit Court gave the Atchison Company leave to file a supplemental bill and Company, by lease and other contracts, admitted the right of the Atchison Company to continue its construction upon its located line. The Court also held that, in any view of the case, the road-bed of a rival company could only be appropristed by payment of the cost of construction, justly computed; but the question of release raised by the supplemental bill must be first determined. litigate thereby the question whether the Rio Grande

## THE LEGISLATURE BUSY.

IMPORTANT MEASURES CONSIDERED. FAVORABLE REPORT ON GENERAL SHARPE'S BILL -THE SENATE COMMITTEE ACTING TARDILY ON

General Sharpe's bill to protect Nassau and other down-town streets from the inroads of the elevated lines was reported favorably in the Senate last evening. The Railroad Committee of that body has, however, deferred the consideration of Mr. Galvin's five-cent fare bill to Tuesday next. Mr. Pomeroy has submitted a substitute for the Strahan bill, regarding civic appointments; in its amended form the bill has been ordered to a third reading. The amendment to make legislative sessions biennial instead of annual has passed the Senate. The Senate has concurred in the Assembly resolution to adjourn finally next

# THE ELEVATED RAILROAD BILLS.

GENERAL SHARPE'S BILL REPORTED FAVORABLY-THE SENATE RAILROAD COMMITTEE DEFERS ACTION ON THE FIVE-CENT BILL.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. ALBANY, May 15 .- The Senate Committee on Railroads met to-day, and without any discussion voted unanimously to report favorably General Sharpe's bill excluding the elevated railroads of New-York from Nassau and all other streets south of the City Hall which are not now included in the rapid transit routes. At the meeting of the Senate in the evening Senator Wagner reported the bill and Senator Wagstaff asked unanimous consent that it be at once considered, but Senator Jacobs objecting, the bill was put regularly at the bottom of the calendar. Its friends will do all in their power to hasten its passage. The bill has been amended

Nothing herein contained shall be construed to pre-vent the exercise of any rights that may exist to cross at an elevation of any street which crosses the city enst-erly and westerly, or to take away any right to run upon

The amendment was made so as to protect the Metropolitan Transit Company's rights if it stiil has any. The amendment will render necessary, however, the return of the bill to the Assembly for approval.

The Committee on Railroads reported favorably at the same time a railroad bill introduced by Senator Pierce, which is precisely similar to Mr. Braman's one in the Assembly authorizing the St. Nicholas Avenue Raitroad to put tracks on Broadway north of Forty-second-st. His bill evidently has some vitality yet, and there may be an attempt to smuggle it through the Legislature during the usual confusion at the last hours of the session. The Railroad Committee also reported favorably a bill directing the Metropolitan Transit Company of New-York to file a map with the County Clerk, showing the routes for an elevated road that it has selected. It has been supposed that this company desires to secure Legislative recognition from a fear that its charter has expired. A new section was, therefore, added to the bill, affirming that nothing in it implied recognition of a charter that had legally expired.

Mr. Galvin's bill reducing fares on the elevated railroads of New-York to a uniform rate of 5 cents was not considered by the Senate Committee on Railroads, as was anticipated. Mr. Galvin appeared before the committee but was not heard, as it had postponed the consideration of the bill till Tuesday next. This postponement was a sore disappointment to the New-York members, as the time of the Legislature is dwindling away so fast that bills whose consideration is postponed are likely not to pass. ator Pierce, which is precisely similar to Mr.

#### THE EXCISE BILL DEFEATED. STRONG OPPOSITION MANIFESTED BY THE COUNTRY MEMBERS.

PROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, May 15 .- Mr. Strahan made a last desperate attempt to-day to pass his Excise bill, applying solely to the Cities of New-York, Brooklyn and Buffalo. The bill was on the order of third readings, but before a vote could be taken amendments were offered to the bill by Mr. Husted and Mr. Sheard. Mr. Husted's amendments were accepted by Mr. Strato 59. The voting on the bill then began. Mr. Bridges said there was no reason for changing the law; the people of New-York, by means of the rapid transit roads, could get "as many drinks" as they wanted. Erastus Brooks said that he thought the bill was in the interest of temperance. Dr. L. I. Hayes said that liquor dealing could not be prevented; therefore measures should be taken to regulate it. Mr. Husted said that he agreed with Judge Davis that the real cause of the outery against the Excise law was that it was not tenfored. The present bill was in the interest of the liquor dealers. Mr. Tallmadge, as a temperance man, advocated the passage of the bill. Speaker Alvord made the closing speech. He sarcastically commented upon the votes of the other members, and inteed broadly that they had voted at the dictation of tacir constituents rather than their own independent lungment. The bill was defeated by a vote of 53 yeas to 64 mays. Nearly all the representatives of the cities voted for the bill, and the country members, irrespective of party, against it. to 59. The voting on the bill then began. Mr. Bridges

#### THE LEGISLATURE BUSY. THE BIENNIAL SESSIONS AMENDMENT ADOPTED THE TRAMP BILL PASSED.

tive of party, against it.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. ALBANY, May 15 .- The Senate passed today without debate the amendment to the Constitution providing for biennial sessions of the Legislature, which was introduced in the Assembly by Mr. Skinner in February last, and subsequently passed by that body. Senator Turner, of Lewis County, has been the chief advocate of the amendment in the Senate. The amendment received the votes of twenty-four Senators; four voted against, namely, Ecclesine, Harris, J. F. Pierce, Robertson; two Republicans and two Democrats. The proposed amendment, which was not made a party test, will have to be submitted to another Legislature and receive its approval before it can be submitted to the people. The vote of to-day may be deemed an excellent example of the effect of experince in the Legislature, as many of the Senators who oted for the amendment this year twelve months ago

deemed an excellent example of the effect of experience in the Legislature, as many of the Senators who voted for the amendment this year twelve months ago voted against it.

The Senate also considered Mr. Strahan's bill providing for a commission composed of the Mayor, Controller, District-Attorney, and City Judge of New-York to appoint the beads of departments in that city in case of the negicet for thirty days by the Mayor and Aldermen to fill vacancles. Senator Pomeroy called up the bill, and frankly stated that as there was no chance of passing it at this late hour in the session, he intended to amend it so that it might pass. He then offered an amendment which otterly destroyed the provision of the bill in regard to the method of removing beads of departments. The bill as amended, in fact, merely provided a more formal way of removing heads of departments. The bill as amended, in fact, merely provided a more formal way of removing heads of departments. If it becomes a law the Mayor and Governor will not have as great freedom as they now possess to remove the heads of departments. Senator Ecclesine taunted Senator Pomeroy with changing front on the bill, and reminded him of his attempt last week Wednesday to rush the bill in its original form through the Senate. Senator Pomeroy replied that his yiews regarding the way to deal with the existing political situation in New-York had not chanced. He still thought that if the killed provision could become a law it would be a blessing to New-York. But he thought also that the Legislature should do what was practicable. Senator Hogan said that he approved of the amendment. As the matter now stood, a public officer of the highest character was likely to be turned out of office in New-York without trial or opportunity to defend himself. The amendment was then adopted, and the bill was ordered to a third reading. The following is the present shape of the bill:

Section 1. No removal from office of any head of department or commissioner of any department of the cart o

The Assembly bills patting the County Clerk and the Register of New-York upon generous sal-aries, with no fees, were ordered to a third reading; as was also Mr. Varoum's bill estab-lishing a Merchants Exchange in New-York. The Senate and Assembly also passed Mr. Hepburn's bill providing that there should be a "surrender value" for all in-

surance policies.

The Senate adopted by a unanimous vote to-day the

Assembly's resolution for the final adjournment of the Legislature on May 22. The Senate also decided to take its usual weekly rest by adjourning from Friday (II) Mongarative.

take its usual weekly rest by adjourning from Friday till Monday night.

The Senate passed to-day Mr. Noyes s bill "to suppress tramps." As the bill had previously passed the Assembly, it now goes to the Governor. New-York in this bill follows the example of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New-Jersey in an energetic attempt to lessen the number of tramps. The bill subjects tramps to punishment of not more than one year's confinement in a county jail or penitentiary. According to it "all transient persons who rove around from place to place, and all vagrants living without labor or visible means of support, who stroll over the country without lawful occasion, shall be held as tramps within the meaning of this act."

The bill to authorize the issue of certain bonds and stocks of New-York City, exempt from taxation, was re-

stocks of New-York City, exempt from taxation, was reported adversely in the Senate to-day. The report was

ported adversely in the Senate to-day. The report was agreed to.

Mr. Varnum to-day moved that the bill to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, relative to noglects of directors of corporations, be ordered to a third reading. Agreed to.

The Governor to-day returned, with objections, the bill to authorize the formation of town insurance companies. His objections were that he had already signed a bill making similar provisions, but better drawn.

In the Assembly to-day, the bill to amend the Excise law with regard to prosecutions for violations of the act, was taken up and put on its final passage and passed. It requires persons prosecuting to give security for the payment of costs in case the prosecution should fall.

for the payment of costs in case as property of fall.

The State Board of Audit to-day awarded Terrence O'Neill Donnelly, of Brooklyn, \$8,000.

Mr. Ecclesine to-day introduced a bill providing that the Metropolitan Transit Company be directed to file surveys and maps of the routes of their railroads, as provided for in the law passed May 22, 1872.

#### REDUCING THE INTEREST RATE. AN EFFORT MADE TO RENDER SIX PER CENT THE LEGAL LIMIT.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. ! ALBANY, May 15 .- The Assembly at its afternoon session debated for over two hours the Senate bill reducing the legal rate of interest from 7 to 6 per cent. Intense interest was shown in the bill by the members from the purely farming districts, and they carnestly favored it. Many members who represen such communities declared privately that they thought the bill an unwise one, but that they intended to vote for it because they would not dare to face their speeches were made against the bill by Speaker Alvord and Erastus Brooks, and Mr. Husted advocated per-sistently the adoption of an amendment profferred by Mr. Van Valkenburgh, which would permit the making of Mr. VanValkenburgh, which would permit the making of a contract for the payment of 7 per cent interest. Messrs. Weston, sheard and Travis urged the passage of the bill. The supporters of the bill are by far the more numerous, and it is believed will be able to pass the bill. It would doubtless have been ordered to a third reading to-day, but by dexterous management the de-bate was prolonged to the hour of adjournment. The friends of the bill are highly incensed at this managurer, and angrilly declare to-night that they will again con-sider it to-morrow if all other business has to be laid aside.

#### THE PROPOSED TAX COMMISSION. THREE NAMES SELECTED-MR. WHEELER AMONG THE NUMBER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, May 15 .- The selection of members of the commission to revise the taxation laws of the State has proved a more onerous task than was anticipated by the members of the Finance Committees of the two houses of the Legislature. The names of over forty persons were suggested as members of the commission. Repeatedly meetings have been held by the committees for the purpose of selecting three names from the lists, but hitherto without results. To-day, however, the Finance Committee of the Senate held a meeting, and after drawing up a bill for the appointment of a commission, selected the following named as its members: Sherman S. Rogers, of Buffalo; Abram S. Hewitt, of New-York, and George Dawson, of Albany. The bill and the names of the gentlemen selected were sent to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, which met subsequently to consider both matters. The bill was approved, but upon Erastus Brooks and Mr. Grady urging the substitution of John Wheeler, President of the Department of Taxes and Assessments of New-York, for Mr. Hewitt, their advice was followed. Mr. Hewitt's name was accordingly stricken off and Mr. Wheeler was substituted. Mr. Sloan was then instructed to report the bill and the names of the commission favorably to the Assembly to-morrow. Benator Harris, upon being informed of the action of the Ways and Means Committee, said that the Senate Finance Committee would take no further action on the matter until the Assembly had passed the bill and it came into their hands. ing, and after drawing up a bill for the appointment of

## INVESTIGATING INSURANCE COMPANIES.

ALBANY, May 15 .- Senator Edick offered today a resolution that the Superintendent of the Insurance Department inform the Senate within six days as to the names of life lusurance companies doing bustness in this State the value and title to whose real estate owned by and mortgaged to such companies have been appraised and tested by the Insurance Depart-

oudition to-night is somewhat improved, but he is not yet out of danger.

## TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

THE CATTLE EXFORT FROM CANADA.

MONTHEAL, Ont., May 15.—During 1878 there
ere shaped to Great Britain from Canadian ports 17,989
and of cattle, 40,000 sheep and 1,614 hogs.

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A STRIKE ENDED AT LOWELL.

LOWELL, Mass., May 15.—Terms were agreed upon to-night under which the printers at the Merrimack Print Works will resume work on Friday morning.

THE GOVERNOR OF MAINE IN NORFOLK.

NORFOLK, Va., May 15.—Governor Garcelon, of Maine, visited the Navy Yard and the receiving ship Franklin to-day, and was received with the customary salute.

THE ENCAMPMENT IN NEWPORT.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 15.—Choule Ward, of the 25a Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., has acc. ted a lot in Newport for the encampment of the regiment early in July.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 15.—Judge Emott having been taken ill, argument in the Brooklyn rapid transit matter has been postponed until to-morrow morning.

THE EXPECTED SEQUEL OF ANEW-YORK FAILURE.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 15.—The recent failure of whitmence, Peet, Poet & Co. has resulted in the embarrassment of Charles F. Mason & Co., of this city, and the kent woollen Company of Warwick.

A RAILEOAD ELECTION IN CONNECTICUT.

HARTFOLD, Conn., May 15.—Herbert R. Coffin, of Windsor Locks, of the firm of C. H. Dexter & Co., paper manufacturers, has been elected president of the Connecticut River Rainroad, to succeed General Pierson, deceased.

RIFLE PRACTICE FOR A MEMBERSHIP.

PULL DREPHIA, May 15.—The only contest to-day

River Rabroad, to succed General Pierson, deceased.

RIFLE PRACTICE FOR A MEMBERSHIP.

PHILADELPHIA, May 15.—The only contest to-day at the new Stockton range was for a life membership in the association; distance, 200 yards; position, standing, W. A. Rauch was the winner, making 43 points out of a possible 50, ELECTION BY MASTER MECHANICS.

CINCINNAII, May 15.—The following officers were elected by the Master Mechanics' Convention to-day: President, N. E. Chapman; vice-presidents, Reuben Weils and J. N. Saunders; secretary, J. H. Setchell; tressurer, S. J. Hayes.

Hayes.

THE AFFAIRS OF JOHN C. WEST & BROTHER.

BOSION, May 15.—John C. West & Brother, of
Pittshid, announce their habilities to be \$123,415, with contingent liabilities of \$58,000 more in indorsements. The assets are \$27,590. An offer has been made of 25 cents on the dollar.

dollar. A VERDICT OF \$500 FOR LIBEL.

New-HAVEN, Conn., May 15.—In the libel suit against The Union, brought by George R. Reisey, which has occupied the attention of the Superior Court for four weeks, the jury gave a verdict for 500 and costs in favor of Keisey to-day.

WESLEY RISHOD TO DO TO THE OR TO THE ORDER OF to-day. WESLEY BISHOP TO PLEAD GUILTY.

NORWICH, Conn., May 15.—In the case of Wesley Bishop, accused of poisoning his wife, it is anneanced, on good authority, that the State Attorney will accept a pica of conviction in the first degree.

INSURANCE HAVEST FORWARD TO THE TOTAL TOTA

coulty of murder in the second degree, rather than press for conviction in the first degree.

INSURANCE RATES SOUTH TOO LOW.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 15.—The eighth annual meeting of the Underwriters' Association of the South will be need in this city on the 21st, 22d and 23d of this month. Strong edors will be made toward correcting the existing demoralization in rates throughout this section.

VERY FEW LICENSES GRANTED.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., May 15.—The granting of prun licenses in the town of Deer Park received a terrible pruning by the Excase Board, which met this afternoon. Out of thirty-nine applications only seven were granted, and these were to regular hotels. The fee was from \$60 to \$50.

A NEW TRIAL GRANTED AT BALLSTON.

BALLSTON, N. Y., May 15.—The motion for a new trial in the Joues case was granted this morning. The District-Attoricy took issue with the decision, asserting it to be at variance with the Judge's charge in the case, and therefore moved that the trial go to the Court of Oyer and Terminer. The motion was granted.

KNIGHTS AT THE BANQUET-TABLE.

upon moved that the trial go to the Court of Oyer and Terminer. The motion was granted.

KN10H1S AT THE BANQUET-TABLE.

BOSION, May 15.—At yesterday's session of the Knights of Honor, a complimentary banquet was tendered by Boston Ledge No. 134 to the vasiting designates of the Supreme Lodge. Past Dictator Woodbury gave the visitoria condail welcome, which was replied to in fraternal and cloquent speeches by prominent members of the order.

THE MILLERS ADOPT A CONSTITUTION.

CHICAGO, May 15.—The National Association of Millers acopted a cansitution this morning, which embodies the principal features recommended by the opening audiress of President Bain. Joseph F. Gint, of Indinar, read a report on "Milling, and the improved Methods in Use." A resolution that sacks be used for flour instead of barrels was adopted. George Bain, of St. Louis, was redecided president; L. Plet ber, of Minnesota, and Robert Tyson, of Baltimore, vice-presidents.

## GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE CANAL CONGRESS CONVENED. THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT PROROGUED-THE WAR FEELING STRONG IN CHILL

The delegates who are to consider projects for an interoceanic canal on the continent assembled yesterday at Paris and selected M. Ferdinand do Lesseps, who constructed the Suez Canal, to preside over their deliberations. The Canadian Parliament has been prorogued by Lord Lorne, who referred in his speech to the tariff and the proposed Pacific Railroad. Great enthusiasm is manifested in Chili at the progress of the war with Peru. The Peruvian fleet remains at Callao.

#### THE INTEROCEANIC CANAL CONGRESS.

Paris, Thursday, May 15, 1879.

The International Congress to discuss proects for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Panama met to-day at the Grand Hotel. M. Ferdinand de Lesseps was elected president. Rear-Admiral Daniel Ammen, of the United States Navy, was chosen one of the vicepresidents. All of the Powers applied to sent delegates. including England, Italy and Russia. The secretary read a paper on the subject before the Congress, after which it was resolved to divide the members into four committees, to discuss the undertaking, and the meeting adjourned until Monday.

Rear-Admiral Daniel Ammen, who is taking part in this Congress, is a native of Ohio. He was born in 1820. In 1836 he entered the Navy, and, after cruis ing with the East India Squadron, became Lieutenant in 1849. During the Civil War he commanded the monitor Patapaco in the operations against Fort Sunter, and the steam-sloop Mobicau in the attack on Fort Fisher.

#### RUSSIAN FIRES AND ARRESTS. ST. PETERSBURG, Thursday, May 15, 1879.

Several conflagrations have occurred in East Russian towns causing great distress. Seventy arrests have been made in Orenburg on charges of incendia

Another are occurred at froit on the 13th mat. Four of the poorer quarters were destroyed.

The station of the Urai Railway and five locomotives were destroyed by the great fire at Irbit.

Four male and six female prisoners are undergoing court-martial at Kieff, including three noblemen, one Prussian subject and a daughter of a Privy Councilor. Among the other arrests are a titled lady and a leading Nibilist. The streets of Kieff near the Court House are to be closed during the trial.

#### A NEW IRISH UNIVERSITY PROPOSED.

In the House of Commons last night The O'Conor Don introduced a bill to establish the University of St. Patrick at Dublin, with the University of St. Patrice at Booms, with affiliated colleges, making provision for fellowships, scholarships and exhibitions at a cost of \$7,500,000, to be defrayed from the Irish Church temporalities. Several Irish members and Messres W. E. Forster and Fawcett supported the bill. Sr Stafford Northcote declined to express an opinion until the House had had time to censider the bill. The bill was accordingly read the first time.

#### HARMONY IN FRANCE. LONDON, Thursday, May 15, 1879. The Paris correspondent of The Manchester

Guardian says: "The disposition of the members of the Chamber of Deputies toward the Government is generally good. A complete agreement prevails in the Cabinet. M. Gambetta regards the situation as excel-lent. He denies the probability of difficulties on any crucial question which the Chambers will have to de-cide." THE GERMAN TARIFF BILL. BERLIN. Thursday, May 15, 1879. The Bundesrath has passed the bill author-

## izing the provisional levying of the duties proposed by the tariff bill. THE SOUTH AMERICAN WAR.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM IN CHILL. PANAMA, May 7 .- Direct communication by cable and the transandine line, between Peru and Europe, is for the present interrupted, Admiral Robelledo, of the Chilian squadron, having cut the coast cable at Iquique, and taken the Chili end on board of his vessels, in order to place himself in direct communication with his Government at Santiago. The record of war operations in the South for the last week is very brief. Pisagua has been bombarded and destroyed, causing a loss of about \$1,000,000. The launches at Mollendo were sunk, several shots sent into the town, doing no damage, however, and one coal ship, the Glen Dale, was relieved of her cargo. Iquique was bombarded for the space of a half hour or so, in which time a dozen projectiles were cast into the town. The loss inflicted was trifling. The Peruvian fleet remains at Callao. The Union-a fast corvette-will not be able to move for a month, and the others prefer to remain

under cover of the guns of the forts at Callao than risk capture by the Chillan fleet.

The South Pacific Times says that at the bombardment

The South Pacific Times says that at the bombardment of Pisagua, "at commencement of the fight, Rear-Admiral Rodgers, of the Pensacola, was putting off from the shore to his sing with a family, when a bail from the Chilian boats carried away his ensign. On his arrival on board the Pensacola he signalled the Unifian flagship, informing them what had happened. Admiral Wilhams Robelledo then went on board the Pensacola and apologized."

Advices from Valparaiso say: "Great enthusiasm provails in Chili. Many young men of distinguished families have enlisted themselves as privates in the army. Valparaiso has furnished more than 1,200 satiors for the fleet. A great meeting has been convened in Valparaiso for the purpose of obtaining funds for the war. The Libro de la Patria is about to be opened. Two capitalists have already offered \$10,000 each, and Don Bernardino Bravo \$4,000."

The United States scamer Lucakawanna is still in Callao, and at last advices the Pensacola was anchored at Iquique.

THE CANADIAN VICEROY'S SPEECH. OTTAWA, May 15 .- In his speech on proreguing Parliament to-day Lord Lorde said: measures adopted for a vigorous prosecution of the Canadian Pacific Railroad hold out a prospect of the early completion of that great undertaking, and the propos purchase from the Grand Trunk Railway Company of a will at last complete the engagement entered into at the time of confederation, to connect by an intercolonial railway the St. Lawrence with the Atlantic Ocean at Halliax." Lord Lorne also referred to the tarif, which will " and in the development of various industries and tend to remove the continued financial and commercial depression which has so gready retarded the progress of Canada."

## REMARKABLE BILLIARD PLAYING.

CHICAGO, May 15 .- A remarkable billiard match was played here to-night between Jacob Schaefe and George F. Slosson. The game was played at McCor-mick's fall for the three ball champtonship of the world; 1,000 points, \$500 a side, with the following result: Schaefer 5, 690, 305. Total, 1,000; average, 3333; Slosson, 14, 9, 11; total, 44; average, 142; time 65 minutes. Schaefer's average is unprecedented. The largest previous ran was 464, which his second ran exceeded by 226 points.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES-BY TELEGRAPH.

A WATER SPOUT IN KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 15.—A water-spout burst in the lower part of the city at noon to-day, causing much damage to property.

Camage to property.

A SWINDLER SENTENCED.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—Edward Redmond, convicted of sending swindling letters to parties East, was to-day sentenced to one year in the House of Corrections.

AN AXE PUT TO A BLOODY USE.

SHERBROOKE, Quebec, May 15.—At Lake Aytmer yesterday two men named Georaus and Letournean quarrelied, when the latter struck the former win an axe, burying it to the handle in his chost. Death was instantaneous.

mg it to the name in ms cases. Peans was manuscome.

MORRISVILLE, N. Y., May 15.—In the trial of Isaiah Bellieid for the murder of Phenbe Cramball in December, 1885, the presence testified to-fac that he was at his sister's when the murder took place. He demied all the material points in the case against him.

A QUICK AND AUDACIOUS ROBBERY.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 15.—The Registry Department of the Post Office in this city was robbed this morning of \$150 and fifty registered letters. The robberty was committed while the ciers, Bealamin Reed, was absent in an adjoining room for a moment.

A MURDER AT MEDINA, N. Y.

MEDINA, N. Y., May 15.—As a Broughton shot Levant Bancroft, killing him almost instantly, lass night, Broughton came to Bancroft's house, just out of the village. Bancroft decice him from the premises, and when they reached the sidewalk Broughton fired.

THIRTEEN BOYS MAKE THEIR ESCAPE.

MANCHESTER, N. H., May 15.—Thirteen boys escaped last night from the dermitery of the State Reform school. They cut an iron bar and fore up sheets to make a ope, letting themselves down to the roof of a sized, and escaping themselves down to the roof of a sized, and escaping themselves down to the roof of a sized, and escaping themselves down to the roof of a sized, and escaping themselves and escape an

caping thence to the ground. One has been recaptured.

A NEW-YOREER DROWNED.

RED BANK, N. J., May 15.—John Duncan, a painter, residing in New-York, while skylarking with some of the deck hands an the steamer E. Morri, while passing Fair Haven on Tuesday night, accidentally fell overboard and was drowned. The body was found yesterday in the Shrewsbury River, and brought to Red Bank. Deceased leaves a wife and five small children.